

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Subj: REVISED MCO 1752.5B “SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (SAPR) PROGRAM”

1. The subject document (96 pages) revised the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response program to be in line with the Department of Defense Directive 6495.01 and incorporated recommendations from the Defense Task Force on Sexual Assault in the Military Services, the Government Accountability Office, National Defense Authorization Act and IGMIC. Most are administrative in nature. The purpose of this document is to standardize the SAPR program across the Marine Corps. The following are significant changes that will impact program implementation.
2. Revised policy requires Installation commanders to appoint Installation SARCs. Installation SARCs shall be full-time civilian employees (NAF-4 or above, utilizing the appropriate standardized position description provided by HQ MFB). Commanders shall utilize the services of the Installation SARC as a subject matter expert, trainer, and program coordinator in conjunction with the Command SARC. Additionally, the requirement for the Installation SARC to be seated at the Behavioral Health Branch (when one exists at the installation) and report administratively to the Behavioral Health Branch Director and operationally to the commander has been added. The duties of the Installation SARC and Command SARC are outlined in Chapter 5. A collaborative relationship between the Installation SARC and Command SARC is required to expedite the flow of SAPR-related information to and from the field and to ensure victim care. Alternate Installation and Command SARCs can be appointed as necessary and meet all necessary training and certification requirements. Currently the Marine Corps has civilian SAPR Program Managers/SARCs at each installation. This change would formally incorporate a subject matter expert at each location and maintain the standards as required by the DoDD 6495.01.
3. Revised policy requires the Installation Commander (non-delegable below Deputy Installation Commander) to chair the multidisciplinary Case Management Group (CMG) on a monthly basis to review all open unrestricted cases, direct system coordination, facilitate monthly victim updates and assess victim services. This will encourage leadership support, ensure CMG member participation, and align with DoD requirements.
4. The revised policy requires that the initial disposition authority is withheld to the Special Court-Martial Convening Authority in the pay grade of O-6 or higher for the following alleged offenses: rape and sexual assault, in violation of Article 120, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ); rape, sexual assault, and sexual abuse of a child, in violation of Article 120b, UCMJ; forcible sodomy, in violation of Article 125, UCMJ; and all attempts to commit such offenses, in violation of Article 80, UCMJ. This change is per the Manual for Courts-Martial 2012 and Secretary of Defense Memorandum, “Withholding Initial Disposition Authority under the Uniform Code of Military Justice in Certain Sexual Assault Cases,” dtd 20 April 2012

5. Revised policy standardizes duties of the essential positions within the SAPR program, including clear guidance on the coordinated effort between the Command SARC and Installation SARC necessary to promote the program and provide victim care.
6. Revised policy requires that data entry into the sexual assault database will be within 48 hours of victim response. For deployed locations, data should be entered within 96 hours of victim response. Timeline for data entry has been determined by DoD requirements.
7. Revised policy incorporates the expedited transfer process for victims of sexual assault who file Unrestricted Reports, IAW Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM) 11-063.
8. Revised policy will increase the minimum training requirements for all SAPR personnel. Initial 40 hour UVA training, facilitated by the Installation SARC, is required for all UVAs and VAs. To maintain certification, UVAs and VAs shall attend 16 hours of annual refresher training, conducted by the Installation SARCs.
9. Revised policy eliminates the Unit SARC. The position of Unit SARC (SSgt and above) shall be converted to Uniform Victim Advocate.
10. Revised policy recommends a Command SARC at the 0-6 level. Minimum rank requirement of Captain will be permitted for this level command.
11. The SAPR 8 Day Brief has been added as a reporting requirement.
12. Point of contact for further information is Ms. Renée Ferranti, Program and Policy Specialist, HQMC SAPR, (703) 432-9765.